

AMENDMENT TO H. CON. RES. 85
OFFERED BY MR. KLINE OF MINNESOTA

At the end of title VI, add the following section:

1 SEC. ____ . SENSE OF THE HOUSE ON FUNDING FOR THE IN-
2 DIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION
3 ACT (IDEA).

4 It is the sense of the House that—

5 (1) Federal support to states and local school
6 districts is an important part of our Nation's efforts
7 to increase student achievement, and that none is
8 more important than the commitment that the Fed-
9 eral Government made to families, States, and local
10 educational agencies to fully fund services provided
11 to students with special needs under the Individuals
12 with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA);

13 (2) Congress should fulfill the commitment that
14 it made in 1975 to provide 40 percent of the na-
15 tional average per pupil expenditure to assist states
16 and local school districts in paying the excess costs
17 of educating children with disabilities, so that they
18 are able to provide a quality education to all stu-
19 dents;

1 (3) the additional Federal assistance to States
2 and school districts will help them improve student
3 academic achievement and comply with Federal re-
4 quirements that ensure that students with disabil-
5 ities are guaranteed access to a free appropriate
6 public education;

7 (4) in 2004, Congress passed the Individuals
8 with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of
9 2004 that established a clear and genuine pattern to
10 reach the 40 percent goal by 2011, but funding has
11 remained well below those necessary levels;

12 (5) when setting the discretionary funding level
13 for the Department of Education for fiscal year
14 2010 and before providing funding for new edu-
15 cation programs that are unproven and existing pro-
16 grams that have been proven to be ineffective, Con-
17 gress should fully fund the Individuals with Disabil-
18 ities Education Act (IDEA) by ensuring that the
19 Federal share of special education costs reaches 40
20 percent and showing unwavering support for the
21 needs of children with disabilities.

